

STEADIER HOG MARKETS PLANNED

Hog Producers and Packers Confer With Representatives of the Food Administration and Agricultural Department and Adopt New Plan of Regulation.

In accordance with the policy of the Food Administration since its foundation to consult representative men in the agricultural industry on occasions of importance to special branches of the industry, on October 24 there was convened in Washington a meeting of the Live-Stock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board and the special members representing the swine industry to consider the situation in the hog market.

The conference lasted for three days, and during this time met with the executive committee of the fifty packing firms participating in foreign orders for pork products and with the members of the Food Administration directing foreign pork purchases.

The conclusions of the conference were as follows:

The entire marketing situation has so changed since the September joint conference as to necessitate an entire alteration in the plans of price stabilization. The current price talk has alarmed the holders of corn, and there has been a price decline of from 25 cents to 40 cents per bushel. The fact that the accumulations of low priced corn in the Argentine and South Africa would, upon the advent of peace and liberated shipping, become available to the European market has created a great deal of apprehension on the part of corn holders. This decline has spread fear among swine growers that a similar reduction in the prices of hogs would naturally follow. Moreover, the lower range of corn prices would, if incorporated in a 15-to-1 ratio, obviously result in a continuously falling price for live hogs. In view of these changed conditions many swine producers anticipated lower prices and as a result rushed their hogs to market in large numbers, and this overshipment has added to and aggravated the decline.

The information of the Department of Agriculture indicates that the supply of hogs has increased about 8 per cent, while the highest official estimate does not exceed 15 per cent. Increased production over last year. On the other hand, the arrival of hogs during the last three weeks in the seven great markets has been 27 per cent, more than last year, during the corresponding period, demonstrating the unusually heavy marketing of the available supply. In the face of the excessive receipts some packers have not maintained the price agreed last month. On the other hand, many of the packers have paid over the price offered to them in an endeavor to maintain the agreed price. The result in any event has been a failure to maintain the October price basis determined upon at the September conference and undertaken by the packers. Another factor contributing to the break in prices during the month has been the influenza epidemic; it has sharply curtailed consumption of pork products and temporarily decreased the labor staff of the packers about 25 per cent.

The exports of 130,000,000 pounds of pork products for October compared with about 52,000,000 pounds in October a year ago, and the export orders placeable by the Food Administration for November, amount to 170,000,000 pounds as contrasted with the lesser exports of 98,000,000 for November, 1917. The increased demands of the allies are continuing, and are in themselves proof of the necessity for the large production for which the Food Administration asked. The increase in export demands appears to be amply sufficient to take up the increase in hog production, but unfavorable market conditions existing in October afford no fair index of the aggregate supply and demand.

It must be evident that the enormous shortage in fats in the Central Empire and neutral countries would immediately upon peace result in additional demands for pork products which, on top of the heavy shipments to the Allies, would tend materially to increase the American exports, inasmuch as no considerable reservoir of supplies exists outside of the United States. It seems probable that the present prospective supplies would be inadequate to meet this world demand with the return to peace. So far as it is possible to interpret this fact, it appears that there should be even a stronger demand for pork products after the war, and therefore any alarm of hog producers as to the effect of peace is unwarranted by the outlook.

In the light of these circumstances it is the conclusion of the conference that attempts to hold the price of hogs to the price of corn may work out to the disadvantage of pork producers. It is the conclusion that any interpretation of the formula should be a broad gauged policy applied over a long period. It is the opinion of the conference that in substitution of the previous plans of stabilization the Live-Stock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board, together with the specially invited swine representatives, should accept the invitation of the Food Administration to join with the Administration and the packers in determining the prices at which controlled export orders are to be placed. This will be regularly done. The influence of these orders will be directed to the maintenance of the common object—namely, the stabilization of the price of live hogs so as to secure as far as it is possible fair returns to the

producer and the insurance of an adequate future supply.

These foreign orders are placed upon the basis of cost of hogs to the packers.

As the result of long negotiations between this body and the Packers' Committee, representing the 45 to 50 packers participating in foreign orders, together with the Allied buyers, all under the Chairmanship of the Food Administration, the following undertaking has been given by the packers:

In view of the undertakings on the part of the Food Administration with regard to the co-ordinated purchases of pork products, covered in the attached, it is agreed that the packers participating in these orders will undertake not to purchase hogs for less than the following agreed minimums for the month of November, that is a daily minimum of \$17.50 per hundred pounds on average of packers' droves, excluding throw-outs. "Throw-outs" to be defined as pigs under 136 pounds, stags, boars, thin sows and skips. Further that no hogs of any kind shall be bought, except throw-outs, at less than \$16.50 per hundred pounds. The average of packers' droves to be construed as the average of the total sales in the market of all hogs for a given day. All the above to be based on Chicago.

We agree that a committee shall be appointed by the Food Administration to check the daily operations in the various markets with a view to supervision and demonstration of the carrying out of the above.

The ability of the packers to carry out this arrangement will depend on there being a normal marketing of hogs based upon the proportionate increase over the receipts of last year. The increase in production appears to be a maximum of about 15 per cent, and we can handle such an increase.

If the producers of hogs should, as they have in the past few weeks, prematurely market hogs in such increasing numbers over the above it is entirely beyond the ability of the packers to maintain these minimums, and therefore we must have the co-operation of the producer himself to maintain these results. It is a physical impossibility for the capacity of the packing houses to handle a similar over-flood of hogs and to find a market for the output. The packers are anxious to co-operate with the producers in maintaining a stabilization of price and to see that producers receive a fair price for their products.

(Signed) THOS. E. WILSON, Chairman Packers' Committee.

The plan embodied above was adopted by the conference.

The Food Administrator has appointed a committee, comprising Mr. Thomas E. Wilson, chairman of the Packers' Committee; Mr. Everett Brown, president of the Chicago Livestock Exchange; Major Roy of the Food Administration; Mr. Louis D. Hall of the Bureau of Markets, to undertake the supervision of the execution of the plan in the various markets. Commission men are asked to co-operate in carrying out the plan embodied in the packers' agreement. It must be evident that offers by commission men to sell hogs below the minimum established above is not fair, either to the producer or the participating packers. Mr. Brown has undertaken on behalf of the commission men in the United States that they will loyally support the plan.

It is believed by the conference that this new plan, based as it is upon a positive minimum basis, will bring better results to the producer than average prices for the month. It does not limit top prices and should narrow the margins necessary to country buyers in more variable markets. It is believed that the plan should work out close to \$18 average.

Swine producers of the country will contribute to their own interest by not flooding the market, for it must be evident that if an excessive over percentage of hogs is marketed in any one month price stabilization and control cannot succeed, and it is certain that producers themselves can contribute materially to the efforts of the conference if they will do their marketing in as normal a way as possible.

The whole situation as existing at present demands a frank and explicit assurance from the conferees represented—namely, that every possible effort will be made to maintain a live hog price commensurate with swine production costs and reasonable selling values in execution of the declared policy of the Food Administration to use every agency in its control to secure justice to the farmer.

The stabilization methods adopted for November represent the best of the conference, concurred in by the Food Administration and the

Live-Stock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board, together with special swine members and the representatives of the packers, to improve the present unsatisfactory situation, which has unfortunately resulted because of the injection of uncontrollable factors.

We ask the producer to co-operate with us in a most difficult task.

The members of the conference were:

Producers—M. C. Stuart, Elk Garden, Va., Chairman Agricultural Advisory Board; W. M. McFadden, Chicago, Ill.; A. Sykes, Ida Grove, Ia.; John M. Eward, Ames, Ia.; J. H. Mercer, Live-Stock Commission for Kansas; J. G. Brown, Menon, Ind.; B. C. Brown, President Chicago Livestock Exchange; N. H. Gentry, Sedalia, Mo.; John Grattan Bloomfield, Colo.; Eugene Funk, Bloomington, Ill.; Isaac Lincoln, Aberdeen, S. D.; C. W. Hunt, Logan, Ia.; C. H. Yancey, W. R. Dodson.

Food Administration—Herbert Hoover, U. S. Secretary, Major E. L. Roy, G. H. Powell.

Department of Agriculture—Louis D. Hall, F. R. Marshall.

The packers present and others sharing in foreign orders were represented by the elected packers' committee. Those represented were:

Packers—Armstrong & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Cudahy Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Morris & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Swift & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Wilson & Co., Chicago, Ill.; John Agar Co., Chicago, Ill.; Armstrong Packing Co., Dallas, Tex.; Boyd Danham & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Brennan Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Cincinnati Abattoir Co., Cincinnati, O.; Cleveland Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Cudahy Bros. Co., Cudahy, Wis.; J. Dole Packing Co., Buffalo, N. Y.; Dunlavy Packing Co., Pittsburg, Pa.; J. E. Decker & Sons, Mason City, Ia.; Evansville Packing Co., Evansville, Ind.; East Side Packing Co., East St. Louis, Ill.; Hammond Standish & Co., Detroit, Mich.; G. A. Hornel & Co., Austin, Minn.; Home Packing & Ice Co., Terre Haute, Ind.; Independent Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Indianapolis Abattoir Co., Indianapolis, Ind.; International Provision Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Interstate Packing Co., Wapona, Minn.; Iowa Packing Co., Des Moines, Ia.; Powers Hogg Co., Jacksonville, Ill.; Kington & Co., Indianapolis, Ind.; Krey Packing Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Lake Erie Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Layton Co., Milwaukee, Wis.; Oscar Mayer & Bro., Sedgewick and Beethoven streets, Chicago, Ill.; J. T. McMillan Co., St. Paul, Minn.; Miller & Hart, Chicago, Ill.; J. Morrell & Co., Ottumwa, Ia.; Nickells Packing Co., Pueblo, Colo.; Ogden Packing and Provision Co., Ogden, Utah; Ohio Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Parker Webb & Co., Detroit, Mich.; Pittsburg Packing and Provision Co., Pittsburg, Pa.; Rath Packing Co., Waterloo, Ia.; Roberts & Oake, Chicago, Ill.; Robt & Bros., New York City; W. C. Routh & Co., Logansport, Ind.; St. Louis Ind. Packing Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Stigler & Co., T. M. Cedar Rapids, Ia.; Sullivan & Co., Detroit, Mich.; Theurer-Norton Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Wilson Provision Co., Peoria, Ill.; Western Packing and Provision Co., Chicago, Ill.; Charles Wolf Packing Co., Topeka, Kan.

FOUND BOOKS DEEP DOWN IN DUG-OUTS

American Library Association Books Sure Reach Soldiers, Says Raymond Fosdick

"I found the books of the American Library Association everywhere in France," says Raymond Fosdick, chairman of the National Commission on Training Camp Activities, who has just returned from an extended trip overseas, during which he conducted a thorough investigation of the work being done by the various war work agencies.

"I found them in dugouts thirty or forty feet below ground, in cow-barns where straw had blown down from the roof away, as well as in the substantial huts and tents far back from the firing line.

"I have found them in hospitals and dressing stations; in scattered villages in the training area where our men are billeted and even in the remote parts of France where the forestry units are carrying out their lonely, but efficient and essential work. Your books are in continual demand from the time the soldiers arrive in camp in America until they come back home after service overseas."

The A. L. A. library service has grown tremendously within the past few months and millions of books have been distributed wherever soldiers and sailors are quartered, on sea or land.

"NEED ONLY CREED" SAYS GIPSY SMITH

"Need is the only creed over there," declared Gipsy Smith, the famous evangelist, speaking to enormous audiences in southeastern cities, where mass meetings have been held in the interest of the United War Work campaign to open on November 11.

FLORIDA NEWSPAPERS PLEDGE ASSISTANCE

Representatives of Florida daily and weekly newspapers in attendance at a luncheon held in connection with a conference of United War Work campaign workers, pledged themselves to concentrate behind the big drive to open on November 11.

MARSHAL FORCES FOR FOOD SAVING

JUST AS IMPORTANT TO PUT OVER FOOD CAMPAIGN AS IT IS ANY OTHER OF WAR DRIVES.

HOME CARDS READY SOON

Food Saving Is Not Only a War Necessity, But Even Should Peace Come, the Situation Will Not in Any Wise Be Changed.

Nashville, Tenn.—During the week beginning on Sunday, December 1, every effort of the Federal Food Administration in Tennessee will be directed to bringing the new conservation campaign to the direct and personal attention of every individual in Tennessee. On Sunday the campaign will begin with the reading of a message from Herbert Hoover in every church and Sunday school of the state. The following day the county food administrators will marshal their forces for the big food drive.

Food Saving a War Necessity.

"It is just as important," says Dr. H. A. Morgan, federal food administrator of Tennessee, "to put over this food drive within the period prescribed as it is to put over any other of the many war drives. Food saving is not only a war necessity, but even should peace come the situation will not in any wise be changed, unless to emphasize the importance of saving. We will in fact have to feed more people from the food savings of America when the war is over than we have to feed now, for the simple fact that the millions who are starving now will then have access to our markets."

"Last year we did a lot of substituting, and we increased our exports of foods largely, but this year we must actually save. Mere substitution of one food for another, simply changing our diet, will not save the fifty per cent more food that we have promised Europe during the coming year than we shipped during the past year. A program of actual, definite, concrete saving only will get us the near eighteen million tons of foodstuffs that we have solemnly promised and that is humanity's sacred name we must furnish."

"The new kitchen or home card which will be placed in every home is the state during the first week of December gives a concrete program of saving. It is the patriotic duty of every buyer and preparer of foodstuffs for the home to consult daily this card and see that its every requirements are met. There is nothing indefinite about our program. It calls for a reduction in food consumption. That reduction can be obtained only if every individual will play his or her part."

"I like the expression that we are going to eat at a common table with all who espouse our common cause. I want our people to realize the burdens that our allies have carried, the blood that they have spilled, the suffering that they have endured, and we are the beneficiaries of it all, and feel when they eat that they are sharing what they have with these devoted people."

In addition to the Home or Kitchen card to be distributed during the first week of December a window card will also be given to each family. This card will be hung in the front window or door, where every passerby can see it and know that the household is a member of the Food Administration and is serving the nation by saving food while the sons of America are serving it by dying at the front."

Food Meetings.

Just as soon as health conditions will permit in the state the food administration will begin the holding of meetings which have been suspended now for nearly a month. Dr. Morgan, the food administrator, and J. I. Finney, his assistant, are planning to visit several counties where they have not been in months and get a personal line on the food administration organization. These meetings with the local organization have proven most profitable and a source of strength to the food administration.

Price of Hogs.

Under an agreement made recently between the United States Food Administration and the leading packers a minimum price of \$17.50 for hogs, except culls or throw outs, has been practically guaranteed on the Chicago market during the month of November. It is believed that this agreement will work out a price on that market around \$18, which will give the producers of Tennessee around \$17 for their hogs. However, in order to obtain this result the producers must co-operate and market their hogs in normal numbers and not as they did in October, when receipts of hogs at seven markets were twenty-seven per cent above the receipts for the same month of last year. With its enormous purchasing power for the army and navy and allies, the food administration hopes, through the cooperation of producers and packers, to stabilize porker prices for the entire month. If the plan works out as hoped for it will doubtless be continued through December.

Mississippi Woman Serves Fighting Men As Y. W. C. A. Worker



KATY BOYD GEORGE.

She is rather wee and very winning. Her eyes repeat the blue on her Y. W. C. A. uniform that carries the insignia of her service. Her hair, grey for all the shortness of her span of years, frames a face worn, not thin, but fine with a suffering that is more than merely vicarious.

She has lived in the shadows, has stood by while the thras were pressed down above tortured eyes, has held the hands of those who knelt in their Gethsemane. In a very literal and unrestricted sense, "She hath done what she could" for those who overseas endure what we, sheltered and safe, read about. She is to tell her story in a series of articles in the Southeastern Department as a National speaker for the Y. W. C. A. during the United War Work Campaign to raise \$250,000,000 during the week of November 11.

At the recent United War Work Convention in Jackson, she was wanted for a speech in the main convention hall while she was busy with committee work elsewhere. Several efforts were made to find her, the program lagged. Presently Gypsy Smith was missed out of a front seat; soon after he returned leading her up the aisle. At the foot of the rostrum he gathered up with a sweeping gesture A. H. King, J. M. Clinton, Capt. George S. Dingle and O. W. Buschman. As the audience rose to its feet at sight of "Our Katie" the five men, like penitents, school boys, made a crescent background for the one small woman, while from five throats—bass, tenor and baritone—rolled the lilting strains of "Katie."

To Katie Boyd George Mississippi women owe the fact that today the name of their grand old commonwealth is on the map of national and international service. Shall all women by concert of effort and sacrifice honor her splendid achievement?

We owe her a special sort of allegiance—a fealty of duty, of tradition and affection. When she speaks one hears again the vibrant voice of her grandfather, J. Z. George, as in legislative halls during trying days of reconstruction, he helped to mould the destiny of our generation. Her forebear's indomitable spirit rings in her voice, emanates from her small supple frame, calls to you from her steady eyes.

RAINBOW DIVISION COLONEL COMMENDS Y. M. C. A. WORK

Colonel Screws Says Alabama Residents Are Appreciative Of Red Triangle Service To Soldiers There

Birmingham, Ala., Oct. 2.—"In my opinion there is nothing that the Y. M. C. A. can ask of the people of Alabama which they would not give if they only knew half of the excellent work being done by your organization," writes Col. William P. Screws, Commander 167th Infantry (Old 4th Alabama), in a letter to Borden Barr, who recently returned from France, where he was engaged in War Work for the Young Men's Christian Association. Leaving out expressions of personal praise, at the request of Mr. Barr, Colonel Screws' letter is as follows:

"On behalf of the officers and enlisted men of the 167th Infantry (formerly the Fourth Alabama Infantry), I wish to thank you for the excellent and valuable work that you have done with us, and with other American troops, since your arrival in France."

"In my opinion too much praise cannot be given the Y. M. C. A. for the excellent work they have done and are now doing for our men overseas. As you know, from personal observation since you have been with us, the 'Y' workers are present in times of need and get some of the luxuries of life to the men that they would not otherwise get."

"As the commanding officer of the regiment, I wish to thank you personally for your excellent efforts and your many deeds of valor and kindness shown all through our hard campaigns, in which you were present with us from first to last."

Alabama residents are to be given an opportunity to give during the week of November 11, when \$170,500,000 will be raised to continue another year the work of the Y. M. C. A. and other welfare work agencies.

COULD HARDLY STAND ALONE

Terrible Suffering From Headache, Sideache, Backache, and Weakness, Relieved by Cardui, Says This Texas Lady.

Gonnes, Tex.—Mrs. Minnie Philpot, of this place, writes: "Five years ago I was taken with a pain in my left side. It was right under my left rib. It would commence with an aching and extend up into my left shoulder and on down into my back. By that time the pain would be so severe I would have to take to bed, and suffered usually about three days. I suffered this way for three years, and got to be a mere skeleton and was so weak I could hardly stand alone. Was not able to go anywhere and had to let my house work go. I suffered awful with a pain in my back and I had the headache all the time. I just was unable to do a thing. My life was a misery, my stomach got in an awful condition, caused from taking so much medicine. I suffered so much pain. I had just about given up all hopes of our getting anything to help me."

One day a Birthday Almanac was thrown in my yard. After reading its testimonials I decided to try Cardui, and am so thankful that I did, for I began to improve when on the second bottle. I am now a well woman and feeling fine and the cure has been permanent for it has been two years since my awful bad health. I will always praise and recommend Cardui." Try Cardui today. E 78

MILLIONS OF SOLDIERS SWARM Y. M. C. A. HUTS

Annual Report of Southeastern Department Reveals 38,866,980 Boys In Camps Crowded Buildings

(By L. Porter Moore.)

Atlanta, Ga., August 26.—An attendance of nearly twenty times the population of Atlanta swarmed happily in Y. M. C. A. huts in the seven states of the Southeastern camps during the fiscal year July 1, 1917, to July 1, 1918, according to the annual report just issued here.

In other words, soldiers in the Southeastern cantonments to the number of 38,866,980 men wrote letters in the "Y" army and navy huts, read literature there and joined in the religious services and entertainments held in the Red Triangle buildings which dot military reservations in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, the Carolinas, Mississippi and Florida.

It is easy to imagine the mountains of stationery the Y. M. C. A. provided in the camps of the Southeast when it is stated that soldiers wrote 32,389,002 letters in the "Y" huts. The Red Triangle workers also made out \$2,468,744 worth of money orders for the soldiers, most of the amount being sent home to relatives.

Educational Work Featured

The "Y" also provided 4,005 educational lectures with a soldier attendance of 1,291,243. The educational classes of various kinds aggregated 64,813 and the attendance was 975,045. Books circulated by the Y. M. C. A. numbered 764,710 and educational clubs formed among the men were 649. Physical activities when figured in statistics amounted to an amazing amount. It is estimated 3,838,360 participated in the various physical activities such as baseball, track and field meets, basketball, etc.

The spectators, the majority of them soldiers, at these physical activities, are estimated for the year at 5,446,512.

The resume of religious activities shows that 3,464,451 persons attended 16,468 religious meetings under "Y" auspices in the Southeast, that 21,338 Bible classes were formed among the soldiery with attendances ranging at \$95,348, that 223,232 Scriptures were distributed, that "Y" workers had 187,533 personal Christian interviews with soldiers, that the boys made 42,093 Christian decisions and that 72,693 signed the religious war roll.

The attendance at the social events of the Y. M. C. A. was phenomenal during the year 3,713,609 attending 8,190 entertainments. The attendance at the "Y" movie shows was estimated at 4,678,530 for 8,222 performances.

W. S. A.

YOU CAN CONTROL MITES AND LICE IN CHICKENS

Mites in the poultry house?

Yes.

Well, they can be controlled by using freely as a spray crude black oil on walls and ceilings, and by painting the perches freely with the oil. To kill body lice, put a pinch of blue ointment in the feathers of the chicken immediately under the vent. Immerse feet and legs to the hocks in the black oil, to rid your fowls of the scaly leg mite. These precautions will mean more eggs. Lousy hens seldom lay eggs.—R. N. Crane, division of agricultural extension, Knoxville.

W. S. A.

Use seed wheat of the 1917 crop, if you have it. If not, search out the farmers of your community who produced normal yields or better.

Buy heavy, plump seed of them. Grow bearded instead of smooth varieties.